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CITY OF EDMONTON

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT

1926



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HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
REPORT

1926

Members of the Local Board of Health

Doctor Harold Orr, Chairman; Doctor D. B. Leitch, Alderman J. W. Findlay

Ex-Officio Members,

His Worship Mayor Bury; Dr. T. H. Whitelaw, M.O.H.;
A. W. Haddow, Esq., City Engineer;
S. Main, Secretary

STAFF

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Medical Officer of Health | T. H. Whitelaw, B.A., M.B. |
| Chief Health Officer | S. Main |
| Health Inspector | R. T. Anderson |
| Chief Sanitary Inspector | W. R. Graham |
| Sanitary Inspector | J. M. Highet, R.P.C., A.I.S.E. |
| Sanitary Inspector | G. Howland |
| Sanitary Inspector | J. H. Blackburn |
| Chief Food Inspector | J. H. Burnet, V.S. |
| Food Inspector | T. E. Lord |
| Milk Inspector and Chemist | H. C. Graham, B.A. |
| Dairy Inspector | C. Ellinger |
| Accountant | Miss B. B. Murray |
| Stenographer | Miss R. Carruthers |
| Chief Welfare Nurse | Miss O. B. Bailey, R.N. |
| Child Welfare Nurse | Miss B. Bean, R.N. |

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1926

REVENUE

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Inspection Fees | \$ 309.00 |
| Cemetery Fees | 2,121.50 |
| Ambulance Fees | 689.50 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 3,120.00 |
| Balance cost of operation | 31,017.63 |
| | \$34,137.63 |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries | \$27,838.95 |
| Printing, Postage, Stationery | 658.09 |
| Transportation | 3,528.76 |
| Telephones | 196.30 |
| Miscellaneous | 337.41 |
| Uniforms | 259.12 |
| Disinfection and Quarantine | 10.11 |
| Cows and Dairy Inspection | 51.81 |
| Burial of Paupers | 129.00 |
| Ambulance | 1,128.08 |
| | \$34,137.63 |

ANNUAL REPORT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Board of Health and City Commissioners.

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the Annual Report of the Department of Health, City of Edmonton for the year ending December 31st, 1926.

Except for epidemics of Measles, German Measles and Mumps, the general health conditions have been good, the birth rate being high and death rates reasonably low.

Summary of Statistics

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Area of City (including 1,000 acres of water) | 27,520 acres |
| Population in excess of 65,000. Estimated at | 65,000 |
| Persons per acre of land | 2.4 |
| Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths) | 1,322 |
| Still births | 61 |
| Births excluding still born | 1,857 |
| Birth rate per 1,000 population | 28.57 |
| Deaths excluding still born and non-residents | 535 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population | 8.23 |
| Death including non-residents | 795 |
| Deaths of infants under 1 year of age (city cases only) | 130 |
| Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births | 70 |
| Marriages | 1,093 |
| Rate of marriages per 1,000 population | 17 |

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

The number of patients admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year was 636, a considerable increase over 1925 when 457 were admitted.

Classified by disease these 636 patients were as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Scarlet Fever | 305 |
| Scarlet Fever with Diphtheria | 2 |
| Scarlet Fever complications | 6 |
| Scarlet Fever suspected | 12 |
| Diphtheria | 63 |
| Diphtheria suspected | 13 |
| Smallpox | 6 |
| Complications following Smallpox | 1 |
| Measles | 72 |
| Measles complications | 1 |
| German Measles | 26 |
| German Measles suspected | 3 |
| Whooping Cough | 13 |
| Erysipelas | 37 |
| Mumps | 8 |
| Mumps suspected | 3 |
| Chickenpox | 8 |
| Tuberculosis | 3 |
| Scabies | 10 |
| Gonorrheal infection | 2 |
| Tonsillitis | 7 |
| Impetigo | 2 |
| Influenza | 5 |
| Syphilis | 2 |
| Actinomycosis | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 1 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Cerebro-spinal meningitis | 1 |
| Discharging eyes | 1 |
| Trench mouth | 1 |
| Suspect cases under observation | 4 |
| Non infectious | 3 |
| Nursing baby with mother | 3 |
| Chronic cases (incurable, old age) | 11 |
| Total | 636 |

The number of deaths occurring in the Hospital during the year was 28, a great increase over 1925 when but 13 patients died. It is to be noted, however, that 17 of these died within 48 hours after admission, being hopeless cases when admitted.

Causes of death were as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Diphtheria | 9 |
| Measles | 5 |
| Scarlet Fever | 4 |
| Pneumonia following Whooping Cough | 3 |
| Erysipelas | 2 |
| Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever | 1 |
| Tuberculosis | 1 |
| Chronic case (old age) | 1 |
| Mumps with intestinal complications | 1 |
| Broncho pneumonia | 1 |
| Total | 28 |

The great majority of our cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria were hospitalized during the year, thereby reducing greatly the number of premises it was necessary to quarantine.

| | | Cases Admitted | |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|
| | Total Cases | to Hospital | Per Cent. |
| Scarlet Fever | 362 | 311 | 86 |
| Diphtheria | 72 | 63 | 87 |

While the Hospital is primarily intended for the care of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, it has been found possible with the number of beds provided to admit and care for a surprisingly large number and variety of other infectious diseases which are subjected to a modified quarantine only, or not subject to quarantine at all under our Provincial Health Act. Smallpox, which up till recently it was, to satisfy public apprehension considered necessary to quarantine and care for in specially isolated quarters remote from populated districts, is now cared for in a portion of the hospital building which can be effectually used for this purpose without risk of the infection being carried to other wards. So long as the number of cases of the disease is limited at any one time to six, no other accommodation for smallpox need be provided.

It is to be noted that eleven so called non-infectious chronics were admitted and treated. These are incurables or old age cases for which temporary accommodation was available in one of the larger wards, not required for infectious conditions.

The number of double or cross infections occurring during the year, which it is impossible to entirely prevent in the best managed hospitals, was kept down to a very creditable minimum in spite of the large variety of infections admitted and treated, indicating that the technique as carried out by the Superintendent and Nursing staff, was effective and in accordance with the best and most efficient principles of the modern up-to-date isolation hospital management.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTED DURING THE YEAR AND
CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR 1925 AND 1924**

| | City Cases | | | Outside Cases | | | Totals | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|--------|------|------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 |
| Smallpox | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| Diphtheria | 72 | 45 | 89 | 6 | 9 | 11 | 78 | 54 | 100 |
| Scarlet Fever | 362 | 340 | 603 | 24 | 11 | 24 | 386 | 351 | 627 |
| Chickenpox | 870 | 368 | 774 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 872 | 368 | 778 |
| Measles | 2687 | 259 | 1334 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 2692 | 260 | 1344 |
| German Measles | 2428 | 176 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2428 | 176 | 5 |
| Mumps | 1017 | 112 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1017 | 113 | 16 |
| Whooping Cough | 860 | 586 | 397 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 861 | 587 | 398 |
| Tuberculosis | 17 | 23 | 53 | 45 | 20 | 30 | 62 | 43 | 85 |
| Erysipelas | 27 | 22 | 35 | 11 | 11 | 14 | 38 | 33 | 49 |
| Cerebro Spinal | | | | | | | | | |
| Meningitis | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Typhoid Fever | 0 | 8 | 1 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 10 | 17 | 4 |
| Arterio Polio | | | | | | | | | |
| Myelitis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Ophthalmia | | | | | | | | | |
| Neonatorum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Sleeping Sickness | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals | 8240 | 1945 | 3311 | 109 | 67 | 97 | 8456 | 2002 | 3410 |

The coincidence of epidemics of Measles, German Measles, Mumps and Whooping Cough in the first seven months of the year and Chickenpox in the last three months, has raised the total of Communicable diseases to a very high figure, or 8,348 cases, of which 7,862 cases were due to these five minor diseases subjected to modified quarantine only. There is every reason to believe that a much more complete reporting of these minor diseases is now being secured in our city than is the case in most cities of a like size.

Scarlet Fever

During the year Scarlet Fever has existed in a sporadic degree over the entire city, with considerable subsidence during the holiday season, July and August. With the opening of schools in September again an increase was noticeable as was to be expected. Mild cases unrecognized or unreported are the most difficult problem in dealing with the prevention of this disease. There were in all 362 cases, as compared with 351 for the previous year. Of the 362 cases, 77 were adults over 15 years of age or 21 per cent. The type of the disease continues to be mild and the mortality much below the average. The number of deaths among the 362 cases was 3, giving a case fatality rate of .82 or less than 1 per cent.

Diphtheria

The number of cases of Diphtheria during the year was 72 as compared with 45 for the previous year. A campaign of Toxoid inoculation to secure immunity was carried on at the schools by the school medical officers assisted by physicians. As a result together with free inoculations given at the Health Department office, some 4,000 children have been immunized and it is hoped by continuing the treatment to greatly lower the incidence of the disease in the very near future. There were 10 deaths among 72 city cases, giving a case fatality rate of 14 per cent. The majority of the deaths were due to not having called a physician or getting the antitoxin treatment early enough.

Smallpox

At intervals Smallpox appeared during the year, there being 7 cases, 3 children and 4 adults. All these except one had never been vaccinated. The vaccinated exception, a barber by profession, age 53, had been vaccinated in infancy, had a very mild attack and only a few isolated spots. Vaccination of all known contacts where necessary was carried out with the result

that the disease was effectually controlled. The prevalence of the disease in various parts of the province however, towards the end of the year, together with the fact that a large number of our city population, especially school children, had never been vaccinated, justified the expectation of further cases in the year following. Only by the continuous enforcement of a compulsory vaccination law for school children can any community like our city hope to remain exempt from occasional outbreaks of Smallpox. Unfortunately we have now no compulsory vaccination law affecting our school population.

Typhoid Fever

No cases of Typhoid Fever were reported for the city during the year. From outside the city ten cases were brought in for treatment.

DEATHS DUE TO INFECTIOUS AND OTHER SPECIAL DISEASES AND PERCENTAGE OF CASES WHERE THE NUMBER CAN BE ASCERTAINED

| | City Cases | Deaths | Per Cent. | Outside Cases | Deaths | Per Cent. |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| Measles | 2687 | 19 | .7 | 5 | 2 | 40 |
| Typhoid Fever | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 10 |
| Scarlet Fever | 362 | 3 | .82 | 24 | 1 | 4 |
| Diphtheria | 72 | 10 | 14. | 6 | 3 | 50 |
| Erysipelas | 27 | 1 | 3.7 | 11 | 3 | 27 |
| Whooping Cough | 860 | 14 | 1.6 | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| Influenza | 0 | 33 | ... | ... | 12 | ... |
| Mumps | 1017 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| Anterio-polio Myelitis | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Lethargic Encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| Tuberculosis of lungs | ... | 28 | ... | ... | 9 | ... |
| Tuberculosis, other than lungs | ... | 13 | ... | ... | 4 | ... |
| Cancer | ... | 53 | ... | ... | 42 | ... |
| Broncho Pneumonia | ... | 14 | ... | ... | 6 | ... |
| Lobar Pneumonia | ... | 14 | ... | ... | 11 | ... |
| Diarrhoea (under 1 year) | ... | 13 | ... | ... | 8 | ... |
| Diarrhoea, between 1 & 2 yrs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... |
| Diarrhoea (over 2 years) | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... |

City death rate per 100,000 Population, the City's Population Being Estimated at 65,000:

| | Deaths | | Rate per 100,000 | |
|---|--------|------|------------------|------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Scarlet Fever | 3 | 3 | 4.6 | 4.6 |
| Diphtheria | 10 | 3 | 15. | 4.6 |
| Typhoid Fever | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis of lungs | 28 | 22 | 43 | 34 |
| Tuberculosis (all other forms) | 13 | 7 | 20 | 10 |
| Influenza | 33 | 12 | 51 | 18 |
| Pneumonia | 14 | 9 | 21 | 13 |
| Broncho Pneumonia | 14 | 14 | 21 | 21 |
| Pneumonia, all forms | 28 | 23 | 43 | 34 |
| Cancer | 53 | 51 | 80 | 78 |

VACCINATIONS AND INOCULATIONS

Though the number taking advantage of the free treatments offered at the Health Office falls far short of what is desirable as a means of preventing Smallpox and Diphtheria, the increase over the previous year indicates that an increasing interest is being taken in the prevention of these diseases by the public. The figures for the last two years are:

| | 1926 | 1925 |
|---|------|------|
| Vaccinations for the prevention of Smallpox | 300 | 170 |
| Inoculations for the prevention of Diphtheria | 916 | 60 |

In addition to the above through the co-operation of the Medical Officers of the Public and Separate School Boards aided by volunteer physicians there have been inoculated against Diphtheria 6,646 making in all 7,562.

In addition there were a large number inoculated by private physicians at their offices. While this will be of material assistance in preventing Diphtheria for the immediate future, we cannot hope to get the maximum possible protection against this dangerous disease until the remainder of our school and pre-school children are also immunized. As the great majority of inoculations given were of children between the ages of 5 and 14, it is likely that a very large proportion of this class have been already immunized. As it is quite certain that considerably over one-third of our population are children under the school age, it is evident that we are still a long way from having the maximum protection against Diphtheria which can be secured by completing the inoculation of the younger and most susceptible element of our population.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following statistics are based on a population of 60,000 for 1923 and 1924 and 65,000 for 1925 and 1926:

| Year | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 population |
|------|--------|---------------------------|
| 1923 | 526 | 8.76 |
| 1924 | 500 | 8.33 |
| 1925 | 454 | 7. |
| 1926 | 535 | 8.23 |

The above figures exclude deaths of non-residents of whom in 1926 there were 260. Including these the deaths in the city in 1926 were 795.

Births

| Year | Births | Population (estimated) | Birth rate for 1,000 population |
|------|--------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1923 | 1943 | 60,000 | 32.4 |
| 1924 | 1846 | 60,000 | 30.7 |
| 1925 | 1934 | 65,000 | 29.7 |
| 1926 | 1857 | 65,000 | 28.57 |

Though there has been a gradual lowering of the birth rate for the last four years, the rate is still high comparatively speaking.

Marriages

| Year | Marriages | Rate per 1,000 population |
|------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1923 | 953 | 15.8 |
| 1924 | 920 | 15.3 |
| 1925 | 977 | 15. |
| 1926 | 1093 | 17. |

The large increase in the marriage rate for the year 1926 is indicative of improvement in business and financial respects.

CHILD WELFARE DIVISION

Infantile Mortality

| Year | Deaths under 1 year of age | Deaths all ages excl. non-residents | Per Cent. of Total | Births | Rate per 1,000 births |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 1923 | 154 | 526 | 29.2 | 1943 | 79. |
| 1924 | 131 | 500 | 26.2 | 1846 | 70.9 |
| 1925 | 106 | 454 | 23.2 | 1934 | 54.8 |
| 1926 | 130 | 535 | 24. | 1857 | 70. |

The infantile mortality rate is the second lowest ever recorded during the past years, being higher than the exceptionally low rate for 1925 of 54.8. The percentage of total deaths, 24 is, however, very slightly above that for 1925, or 23.2. The above figures exclude the deaths of infants who died within a very short time after being brought to the city for treatment. If the infants from outside the city are included for 1926, the number of infant deaths would be 156 and the rate of infantile mortality would be raised to 83.

According to monthly returns the deaths of infants were as follows:

| Months | City Deaths | Outside City Cases |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|
| January | 7 | 2 |
| February | 6 | 3 |
| March | 12 | 1 |
| April | 13 | 2 |
| May | 12 | 1 |
| June | 7 | 3 |
| July | 4 | 1 |
| August | 9 | 1 |
| September | 18 | 4 |
| October | 11 | 3 |
| November | 21 | 3 |
| December | 10 | 2 |
| Totals | 130 | 26 |

Number of infants born alive capable of sustaining life, 88 or 57%.

Number of infants born alive but incapable of sustaining life, 67 or 43%.

The causes of death given for the 156 babies under one year are as follows:

| | City Cases | Outside City Cases |
|---|------------|-----------------------|
| Measles | 3 | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | 6 | 0 |
| Diphtheria | 3 | 1 |
| Influenza | 0 | 1 |
| Mumps | 0 | 1 |
| Meningococcus Meningitis | 0 | 1 |
| Tuberculosis | 3 | 1 |
| Septicemia | 1 | 0 |
| Rickets | 4 | 1 |
| Encephalitis | 0 | 1 |
| Haemophilia | 1 | 0 |
| Simple Meningitis | 1 | 0 |
| Infantile Convulsions | 0 | 1 |
| Disease of Ear | 1 | 0 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 1 |
| Bronchial Pneumonia and Capillary Bronchitis | 5 | 2 |
| Lobar Pneumonia and Pneumonia | 2 | 2 |
| Disease of Stomach | 1 | 0 |
| Intestinal Indigestion | 13 | 8 |
| Intestinal Obstruction | 1 | 0 |
| Disease of Skin | 1 | 0 |
| Malformation | 0 | 1 |
| Congenital Heart | 3 | 1 |
| Congenital, not stated | 7 | 0 |
| Congenital debility | 5 | 0 |
| Prematurity | 40 | 0 |
| Injury at birth | 10 | 0 |
| Other diseases peculiar to infancy | 6 | 2 |
| Poisoning by Food | 1 | 0 |
| Ill defined | 1 | 0 |
| Not specified | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 130 | 26 |

The ages at death of the 156 infants who died are as follows:

| | City Cases | Outside City Cases |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Under 1 day | 38 | 0 |
| Over 1 day, under 1 week | 22 | 0 |
| Over 1 week, under 1 month | 10 | 2 |
| | 70 | 2 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|
| In the first month | 70 | 2 |
| In the second month | 9 | 2 |
| In the third month | 10 | 3 |
| In the fourth month | 4 | 5 |
| In the fifth month | 9 | 5 |
| In the sixth month | 8 | 1 |
| In the seventh month | 5 | 1 |
| In the eighth month | 7 | 3 |
| In the ninth month | 1 | 1 |
| In the tenth month | 2 | 2 |
| In the eleventh month | 3 | 0 |
| In the twelfth month | 2 | 1 |
| Totals | 130 | 26 |

Sixty or almost one-half of city infant deaths during the year died in the first week of life, 38 of them being under 1 day. Seventy or 54 per cent. died in the first month. The great decrease which has been secured within the last fifteen years in infant mortality has been through saving the lives of infants who have passed the first month of life. Little has been accomplished up to date in lowering the mortality in the first month. The great majority of deaths of infants which are born incapable of sustaining life, occur in the first month of life. The only hope of materially reducing the death rate in this class of infants, is through pre-natal care of the expectant mothers.

The operation of the Child Welfare Clinic and the associated work of the nurses employed in district visiting, has undoubtedly contributed greatly to the reduction of infantile mortality. This, unfortunately, can not be brought to bear directly in the first few weeks of life when the greatest mortality takes place. Of the 156 infant deaths including outside cases, only 7 had attended the Child Welfare Clinic, two attending one Clinic, three attending two clinics, only the two remaining attending regularly.

In December, 1926, there were on the roll 1,475 babies and pre-school children. During the year 100 clinics were held with a total attendance of 3,945, or an average of 39. Of this number 3,124 were under two years of age, and 297 of the number were referred to their family physician for treatment.

An expression of appreciation of the services of the physicians who have voluntarily given their time to the Clinic is due, and also to the splendid co-operation of the Victorian Order of Nurses, to whom many of the expectant mothers have been referred. Various charitable organizations have also assisted greatly in supplying clothing to needy families during the year.

Illegitimate Births and Still Births

The percentage of illegitimate births continues to indicate an increase each year, as the following figures show:

| | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Births | 1855 | 1934 | 1846 | 1943 |
| Illegitimate births | 119 | 109 | 99 | 98 |
| Per cent. Illegitimate | 6.4 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 5. |
| Still Births | 61 | 83 | 48 | 49 |

Nationality of the 1,855 Infants Born in 1926

The nativity of the male parents of these infants was as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------|------|--------|
| Canadian | 630 | 34. % |
| British Isles | 592 | 32. % |
| United States | 220 | 11.5 % |
| Others | 413 | 22.5 % |
| Totals | 1855 | 100. % |

The total of British parentage which is divided almost equally between Canada and the British Isles is 66 per cent. If to this we add 11.5 per cent. of United States parentage we have for Anglo-Saxon English-speaking countries 77.5 per cent. Non-English-speaking countries, 22.5 per cent.

Compared with 1925 the percentage of British born has declined from 69.3 per cent., while the European non-English-speaking class has increased from 17.1 to 22.5 per cent.

SCAVENGING AND GENERAL SANITATION

During the year 459 plumbing installations were made, of which 261 were in new dwellings. This would indicate that a substantial reduction has been made in the number of houses situated where sewer and water mains are available, which have not been supplied with modern plumbing. There are still apparently 1,000 premises occupied which do not yet comply with the requirements of the sewer and water Bylaws. In many cases the financial status of the owners of these premises makes it impossible to enforce these Bylaws rigidly without causing a hardship. It is anticipated that this class of residence or dwelling will in process of time be gradually eliminated until practically all such on the line of sewer and water are connected up or replaced by structures in which it is possible to install plumbing without danger of frost.

Under the direction of the City Engineer, the collection of garbage and refuse has been carried out with a minimum of complaints. Some difficulty is still experienced in inducing some householders to obtain a garbage can suitable in size and strong enough to withstand the necessary handling when being emptied. The installation of gas has greatly increased the amount of rubbish and garbage to be collected, while the quantity of ashes has been correspondingly reduced.

The bacteriological reports received of the city water supply during the year indicate that it is, by filtration, sedimentation and chlorination, being kept free from any dangerous contamination. No cases of Typhoid Fever of citizens have occurred during the year, while from country districts outside the city there were ten cases of Typhoid Fever with 1 death or 10 per cent. of cases. This clearly indicates that residents of the city run little risk of contracting Typhoid so long as they use city water and remain at home. Residents going to lake resorts during the holiday season should adopt the precaution of sterilizing by chlorine or boiling all drinking water or water used for washing eating utensils and dishes.

The lack of proper sedimentation for the city water supply resulted in many justifiable complaints during the year at periods of high water. This difficulty will, it is hoped, be overcome by the construction of the new sedimentation basin during the coming year.

The following brief summary of the Report submitted by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. R. Graham, gives some indication of the volume of work carried on during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors.

| | |
|---|------|
| Complaints received and dealt with | 603 |
| Inspections made including 3,197 reinspections .. | 9887 |
| Notices issued for abatement of nuisances | 4166 |
| Application for Yard Hydrants of which 37 were granted and 13 refused | 50 |
| Applications for licenses calling for special investigation of which 303 were granted | 342 |

These applications were for the following: Candy and Ice Cream Parlors, Bake Shops, Restaurants, Butcher Shops, Fish Shops, Fruit and Vegetable Wagons, Barber Shops, Hair Dressing and Manicuring, Pool Rooms, Billiard Halls, Lodging Houses, Bath Houses, Dog Kennels and Laundries.

While it is the policy of the Department to endeavor to get the desired results without resorting to prosecutions, it was found necessary to prosecute in forty-four cases as follows for breach of City and Provincial Bylaws:

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Number of prosecutions | 44 |
| Convictions | 37 |
| Cases withdrawn | 6 |
| Dismissed | 1 |

MEDICAL RELIEF

The establishment of the Eventide Home in Bonnie Doone district by the Salvation Army has been of great service in taking care of the destitute crippled and aged men in the city. The conditions under which these unfortunates are being kept there are very satisfactory. No accommodation or home for females in the same condition is as yet provided in the city, but such a home is needed to a much lesser extent than one for men at the present time.

Medical attention has been given to the aged and incurable class coming under the City Relief Department during the year and accommodation secured when necessary in our local hospitals.

BOARD OF HEALTH

During the year there were held fifteen (15) meetings of the Board including two special meetings and an adjourned meeting. All matters requiring special consideration have been dealt with in a very satisfactory manner.

BEECHMOUNT CEMETERY

During the year the collection of accounts for burials produced a revenue of \$2,121.50, which was turned over to the Engineer's Department, which carries out the operation and expenditure necessary to maintain the Cemetery.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The operation of the Infectious Disease Ambulance by the Health Inspectors during the year, produced a revenue of \$689.50. There were 419 patients carried of whom 102 were transported free of charge owing to poor financial circumstances. The cost of operation was \$1,117.08, not allowing for depreciation.

Arrangements for the purchase of a new Ambulance to be put into service in 1927 were made at the end of the year, by the Board of Health.

FOOD AND DAIRY INSPECTION DIVISION

The reports of the Food and Dairy Inspectors, appended, show what has been accomplished during the year in safeguarding the public against possibilities of fraud, adulteration or unwholesomeness in food or dairy products.

In concluding this report it is gratifying to state that a greater measure of co-operation than usual on the part of the public generally has been secured during the past year. To the following our thanks are due for assistance in carrying on the multifarious duties of a Health Department: The members of the Medical Profession, the Medical Departments of the Public and Separate School Boards, the Hospitals, the University Clinic, Relief Department, the Salvation Army, the Engineers, Power House and Water Departments, the Police and City Commissioners. A tribute should also be paid to the employees of the Department who have given during the year very efficient service.

Yours very truly,

T. H. WHITELAW,
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1926

Dr. T. H. Whitelaw,
Medical Officer of Health,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

The report as follows on food inspection work for the year ending December 31st, 1926, is respectfully submitted.

Inspection of foodstuffs and premises have been regularly carried out in restaurants, hotel kitchens, bakeries, meat markets, grocery, fruit and confectionery stores, city markets, and abattoirs, under city inspection during the past year.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year by this branch of the Department.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| No. of inspections made | 11,126 |
|-------------------------------|--------|

Meat Inspection

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Quarters of beef inspected | 10,694 |
| Carcasses of hogs inspected | 1,994 |
| Carcasses of mutton inspected | 709 |
| Carcasses of veal inspected | 4,031 ½ |

Meats Inspected and Condemned

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of carcasses of beef condemned | 12 |
| No. of quarters of beef condemned | 2 |
| No. of portions of beef condemned | 147 |
| No. of carcasses of beef rejected | 1 |
| No. of quarters of beef rejected | 2 |
| No. of carcasses of hogs condemned | 7 |
| No. of portions of hogs condemned | 257 |
| No. of carcasses of mutton condemned | 2 |
| No. of portions of mutton condemned | 112 |
| No. of carcasses of mutton rejected | 1 |
| No. of carcasses of veal condemned | 11 |
| No. of portions of veal condemned | 12 |
| No. of carcasses of veal rejected | 3 |

Eggs graded for farmers at City Market on Market Days: 36,863 dozen.

Unfit for food: 229 5/12 dozen.

Eggs graded for dealers at City Market: 4,440 dozen.

Unfit for food: 84 5/12 dozen.

Loaves of bread seized for being short weight: 15.

Foodstuffs Condemned

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| | Lbs. |
| Beef | 9,838 |
| Pork | 4,358 |
| Mutton | 509 |
| Veal | 666 |
| Fish | 294 |
| Fowl | 226 |
| Fruit | 2,816 |
| Vegetables | 6,528 |
| Canned Goods | 14,728 |
| Eggs (498 7/12 dozen) | 744 ½ |
| Flour | 1,200 |
| Ice Cream, gallons | 3 ¼ |
| Sundries | 1,044 ½ |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total number of pounds of foodstuffs condemned | 42,952 |
|--|--------|

Prosecutions

A baker was fined \$1.00 and costs for smoking a cigarette in Bakery whilst on duty.

A farmer was fined \$15.00 and costs for exposing eggs for sale labelled fresh extras on the City Market which were 66% below grade.

A tradesman was fined \$3.00 and costs for exposing apples to contamination in open doorway.

Samples of Foodstuffs Submitted to the Provincial Analyst

Two samples of canned peas complained of. Result—Both samples in excellent condition.

Sample of Celery. Result—Contained copper sulphate.

Sample of Bread supposed to contain tobacco proved to be stale dough.

Sample of Beer. Result—Beer satisfactory in every respect. Foreign material nil.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. BURNETT,

Chief Food Inspector

ANNUAL REPORT OF MILK INSPECTOR

Dr. T. H. Whitelaw,
Medical Officer of Health,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

During the year there were collected eight hundred and twenty-seven (827) milk samples. The bacteria results of the examination of these samples is tabulated below according to months. As the milk has been gradually improving in quality from year to year it was thought wise to divide the first column as formerly listed by adding one marked special to include those samples which did not go over fifty thousand bacteria per cubic centimeter. The counts of four samples were spoiled by the presence of spreaders leaving 823 actually counted. Of these 470 or 57% of the whole were classed as special, while 16% more did not exceed 100 thousand. This gives a total of 73%, a considerable improvement over 49% last year.

| Months | Special | Under 100,000 | 100,000- 200,000 | 200,000- 300,000 | 300,000- 400,000 | 400,000- 500,000 | 500,000- 1,000,000 | Over 1 Million | Spreader | Total |
|-------------|---------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------|-------|
| January | 41 | 20 | 13 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 83 |
| February | 37 | 18 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 68 |
| March | 48 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 67 |
| April | 44 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 68 |
| May | 36 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 52 |
| June | 58 | 10 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 91 |
| July | 34 | 11 | 13 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 84 |
| August | 22 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 62 |
| September | 36 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 58 |
| October | 46 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 82 |
| November | 26 | 11 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 54 |
| December | 42 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 58 |
| Totals | 470 | 129 | 84 | 38 | 22 | 10 | 30 | 40 | 4 | 827 |
| Percentages | 57.1 | 15.7 | 10.2 | 4.6 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 3.6 | 4.9 | | |

The lowest percentage of Specials came as would be expected in months of July and August.

There were besides those included in the table thirteen private samples examined, of which ten would classify as special and the highest was 880 thousand. Three samples of superior gave counts of ten thousand, one seventy thousand and four million. Six cream samples gave counts from twenty-thousand to four million.

Butter fat tests were run on eight hundred and twenty street samples of milk. The average for the year was 3.93%. The lowest monthly average was for May, 3.76%, and the highest for September, 4.20%.

Sixteen special samples gave an average test of 3.62%, three samples apparently skim milk of uncertain origin, tested 0.7, 0.7 and 0.8%. In addition to these 13 sample from individual cows taken to check up the composite milk of herd averaged 3.94%. Five samples of superior milk gave an average test of 10.9% B.F., and seven creams averaged 31.7%.

Dirt tests were made of the street samples of milk and the results were quite satisfactory, although several individual samples showed rather too much dirt. These tests are particularly useful as the results can be actually shown to the producers in a way he can very easily understand and improvement is thus easier to obtain.

Of one hundred and thirty-seven premises of cowkeepers in the city who had applied for license, one hundred and thirty were approved and three applications were undisposed of at the end of the year. One hundred and seventy-one inspections of this nature were made.

Considerable work was also done in arranging for the tuberculin tests for cows inside the city limits. As the total number of such cows is large and there is considerable buying and selling all the time, this work takes up a great deal of time.

Supervision was given in a general way to the sanitary conditions of the swimming pools, particularly the municipal pools. Chemical solutions and standards were prepared and supplied from time to time as required. Two hundred and forty-eight samples of the water were taken to the University for examination. The results show that with proper care and close attention by the operators to the chemical tests the bacteria counts on almost all samples can be kept very much below the limit of even such standards as are set for drinking water.

Respectfully submitted,
H. C. GRAHAM,
Milk Inspector

ANNUAL REPORT OF 1 DAIRY INSPECTOR [

Dr. T. H. Whitelaw,
Medical Officer of Health,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

I herewith submit the following report on the inspection of dairies for the year ending December 31st, 1926.

Five hundred and forty-six (546) applications for dairy licenses were received, four hundred and nine (409) of which come under my report as follows:

| | Totals | Granted | Refused | In Abeyance |
|---|--------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Local and within 15 mile radius of city | 303 | 299 | 3 | 1 |
| Beaumont | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Calmar | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Carbondale | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Denville | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Dinant (near Camrose) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Fort Saskatchewan | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Legal | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Leduc | 22 | 22 | 0 | 0 |
| Millet | 41 | 40 | 0 | 1 |
| Morinville | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Riviere Qui Barre | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| St. Albert | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Spruce Grove | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Stony Plain | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Villeneuve | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Volmer | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Wetaskiwin | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | 409 | 402 | 5 | 2 |

Three (3) licenses were suspended during the year. Two of which were for not observing quarantine of non-tuberculin tested cattle and one for continued dirty condition of cream.

Number of inspections made, 1,657.

The premises of two dairy farmers were quarantined on account of Scarlet Fever. Licensees observed quarantine and on dairy utensils or persons working in connection with the dairies entered the houses.

A case of cruelty to animals was met with and duly reported to the proper quarters.

Respectfully submitted,
C. ELLINGER,
Dairy Inspector

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DATE DUE SLIP

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